

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01573 230629 Z

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ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 IGA-02 EB-11 INR-10 IO-13 RSR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9653

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAID, CE

SUBJ: CARE/ SRI LANKA SCHO

FEEDING PROGRAM, FY-1974

REF: COLOMBO 1460; TOADI A-28

1. MISSION WISHES CLARIFY ITS POSITION ON CARE' S REVISED PROGRAM FOR FY-1974. AS STATED IN TOAID A-28, WE CONSIDER REVISED PLAN " BEST POSSIBLE COMPROMISE ON QUALITY (PROVIDING 5 GRAMS PROTEIN PER SCHOOL FEEDING DAY) AND QUANTITY (PROVIDING FOR 1.2 MILLION GRADE SCHOOL RECIPIENTS)." APPROVAL OF 80 PERCENT OF REQUESTED COMMODITIES (SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED BY COLOMBO 1460 TO " AT LEAST OIP PERCENT") WAS RECOMMENDED ONLY BECAUSE TIGHT COMMODITY SITUATION IN FACE WORLD- WIDE DEMANDS AND RELATIVELY LOW PRIORITY OF SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMS EVERYWHERE SEEMED TO RULE OUT ANY INCREASED US INPUT INTO CARE PROGRAM HERE.

2. APPARENT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN CONCURRENCE IN ENTIRE REVISED CARE SUBMISSION FOR FY 1974 AND " AT LEAST 80 PERCENT" RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING COMMODITIES HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO GSL, BUT IT FOR OBVIOUS REASONS REMAINS UNHAPPY AND SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN BOTH RE OUR ACTION AND AS TO HOW IT WILL MEET ADDITIONAL POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES REDUCTION IN PROGRAM COULD ENTRAIL. CARE/ SRI LANKA IS ALSO PRESSING FOR EMBASSY ENDORSEMENT OF 100 PERCENT OF COMMODITY REQUEST.

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3. WE WISH REITERATE OUR SUPPORT FOR REVISED FY- 774 CARE PROGRAM AND FOR THREE YEAR PHASE- DOWN (FY-74 THROUGH FY-76) IN RECIPIENTS AT FIVE- GRAM DAILY FEEDING. WE WISH ALSO STATE EXPLICITLY THAT, IF 100 PERCENT OF REQUIRED COMMODITIES CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE, WE RECOMMEND THEY BE PROVIDED. REVISED FY 1974 PLAN REPRESENTS COMMENDABLE AND SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVE TO RECONCILE POLITICAL AND NUTRITIONAL FACTORS, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE RECOGNITION OF THIS GSL EFFORT THROUGH AID/ W APPROVAL OF FULL COMMODITY REQUEST. " AT LEAST 80 PERCENT" IS ONLY FLOOR OF OUR POSITION IN EVENT 100 PERCENT IS CLEARLY NOT POSSIBLE.
VAN HOLLEN

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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